

#### Youth & Community Alliance of Smithtown

# General Membership Meeting November 28, 2017 - Smithtown Library Main Branch

Keeping Our Youth & Families Safe... Physically & Emotionally Healthy & Free of Substance Abuse

## **Meeting highlights:**

Introductions and overview of the Alliance and formation/ initiatives of the three committees (Substance Abuse, Healthy Relationships, and Bullying/Cyber-Bullying). A recap of past committee work was also given.

Alliance members voted on the new logo. (Developed by Shala Pascucci, Alliance member).

Kenny Bernardini from the Town of Smithtown Public Safety Technical Services Department discussed his work with the Town. He will be working with the Bullying/Cyber-bullying Committee on developing a Public Service Announcement (PSA). This project has been approved by the Town Public Safety Department. The group watched a segment that Kenny produced for Kings Park in the kNOw several years ago. Once the bullying PSA is developed it will be shown on the Verizon and Optimum public access channels and on the Smithtown government channel: www.smithtowngtv.org.

The group watched a PSA from Burger King that focused on bullying and speaking up for others.

### Committees broke out into groups and had a brief discussion on how to proceed with committee projects:

<u>Bullying/Cyber-bullying Committee</u>: Discussion on the PSA production. Possible ideas included; HS actors, real stories with actors, voice over of thoughts, anonymous stories, people standing up to bullying (positive spin)

<u>Substance Abuse</u>: Discussed the next steps to the NOYL community education project (Not On Your Life). Will reach out to the Chamber of Commerce about the program and confirm a date.

<u>Healthy Relationships</u>: Recapped the Effective Family Communication workshop, also discussed future topics such as mindfulness, being present in life, connectedness, and programs for students who are stressed out.

**Announcements:** There will be a free Bully Buster class at a local martial arts school on 1/11/17 at 5pm. Flyer was available to anyone interested.

Next general meeting: March 20, 2018 from 4:30-6:00 pm at the Smithtown Library

**Committee meetings:** Bullying/Cyber-Bullying 1/16/17 4:30-5:30 pm, Substance Abuse- 1/30/17 4:30-5:30 pm, Healthy Relationships- 2/27/17 4:30-5:30 pm at Horizons/Youth Bureau (161 E. Main St. Smithtown)



#### **Town of Smithtown Youth & Community Alliance**

"To promote the health and wellness of our young people; mobilize schools and communities; and utilize resources to create and sustain an environment where destructive decisions and substance abuse are reduced"